

Marshall County Health Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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H1N1 Update

PLYMOUTH, Ind. – The Marshall County Health Department did receive and a small quantity of injectible and Flumist H1N1 vaccine this week. More vaccine is expected to be delivered each week for the foreseeable future.

The MCHD is distributing the vaccine to local medical providers as soon as it becomes available. The providers will distribute it to their patients that are in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention target groups, who are more susceptible to complications from H1N1.

The targeted groups are:

- Pregnant women
- People who live with or care for children 0-6 months
- All people 6 months to 24 yrs
- Health care workers and emergency medical services personnel
- People 25-64 with health conditions that make them have a higher risk of medical complications from influenza.

In addition, some Flumist has been distributed to pharmacies and may require a physician's prescription. Flumist is for healthy people ages 2 to 49 that have not had a recent live virus vaccine.

The MCHD is planning to set up public clinics, initially for children, as regular shipments increase. Children are catching and transmitting the H1N1 virus more then other age groups and protecting them will help reduce everyone's exposure to H1N1.

We expect to have enough H1N1 vaccine in the coming months for everyone that wants it. Clinics for the general public will be announced in the local media.

There are things that all members of the community can do to limit exposure and spread of any influenza, they include:

- Cover your cough and sneeze with your arm, not hand
- Use proper hand washing techniques – 20 seconds of soap and hot water
- Stay home if you are sick

For more information contact the Marshall County Health Department at: 574-935-8565.

For general information please call 211 or the state hotline between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., Monday through Friday at: 1-877-826-0011 or TTY 1-888-561-0044.